



# LARC



Volume 51, Number 11

November 2011

## President's Message

Since the last General Meeting, I have added another year to my life and starting to feel it in my ole bones but that's LIFE. I hope everyone is enjoying the cooler WX, looks like we missed the hurricane season this year (keep your fingers crossed)!

One of the priorities at the November meeting will consist of appointing a nominating committee for officers for year 2012 - 2013 as per the AARA Bylaws set forth as follows:

*"Section 1. A nominating committee will be appointed by the President of the association at the November membership meeting each year and will consist of two (2) members of the Board of Directors and two (2) voting members in good standing from the general membership. The president will designate the Chairperson".*

The committee will present their slate at the January 2012 meeting, their findings will be presented in the February issue of the LARC newsletter. The February General Meeting will consist of nominations from the floor and elections held. The new officers will be installed at the March General Meeting (held after the AARA Hamfest).

I must commend all those persons that helped Sandy KE5KJF, Chairperson for the "Tour du Teche Canoe Race" down the Bayou Teche from Port Barre to Berwick, Louisiana. Sandy's OM Larry KE5KJD took a big part in helping out with this event too. A lot of work went into making this three day event a success and from what I hear, the sponsors want us to help again next year. More about this event in this newsletter.

A "**BIG THANKS**" goes to Mike Ancona KE5COV for allowing us to link the 146.82 Lafayette repeater to the Franklin 147.120 via EchoLink for this event. He put in many long hours and a lot of hard work....Thanks Mike!

73 de Herman KN5GRK  
AARA President



Mike - KE5COV

## Ballots for Delta Division Director's Election Due Soon

The last day for Delta Division Director ballots to arrive at ARRL Headquarters is fast approaching. All ballots must arrive by noon on November 18. If you have not received your ballot and wish to vote, please contact Lisa Kustosik at 860-594-0245, and you will be furnished with a ballot by first class mail.

## AARA Board Meeting

An AARA Board Meeting was held on October 6, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. at the Red Cross building prior to the October General Meeting. The meeting was called to order by President Herman Campbell KN5GRK. Items discussed were:

We still need a Chairperson for the Hamfest. Herman KN5GRK is the Chairperson temporarily.

**Budget:** Joy Breaux N5YCS presented the Budget for 2011-2012. After discussion, the Budget was approved as presented.

**Amos:** On motion by Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF, seconded by Archie Hill W5AG, the Board agreed to change the tires on Amos. Glenn Thibodeaux KF5FNP and Archie Hill W5AG will get the tires.

There was some discussion about the Yaesu radio in Amos. The auto antenna tuner in the Yaesu is not working. On motion by Nick Romero KE5MWX, seconded by Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP, the Board approved the purchase of an external automatic antenna tuner for the Yaesu in Amos. Archie Hill W5AG will order the external automatic antenna tuner. This matter was brought before the membership at the General Meeting and approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandy LeBlanc, KE5KJF  
AARA Secretary

**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME  
ENDS  
SUNDAY MORNING  
NOVEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>  
FALL BACK ONE HOUR**

**DATES TO****REGULAR MEETING**

Thursday November 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 7:00 PM

Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St. Scott, LA

**HAMFEST SCHEDULE**

Jackson County ARA, Ocean Springs, MS Nov 18-19

**Local 2-Meter Nets****Sunday**

Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00

PM

146.820 Lafayette, LA

**Monday**

AARA Net 7:00 PM

146.820 Lafayette, LA

**Tuesday**

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM

145.370 - 600 PL 103.5

**Friday**

HEAL Net 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays Only

1:00 PM

**AARA OFFICERS 2011-2012**

**President - Herman Campbell KN5GRK**

kn5grk@lusfiber.net

**Vice Pres. - Archie Hill W5AG**

**Secretary - Sandy Leblanc KE5KJF**

**Treasurer - Joy Breaux N5YCS**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**Irma Bookter - KE5UPK**

**Glen Thibodeaux - KF5FNP**

**Nick Romero - KE5MWX**

The **LARC** is published monthly by the:

**Acadiana Amateur Radio Association**

P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

Regular meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of

each month at 7:00 p.m. at the American Red Cross Building

**Technician Contest Winner**

I would like to announce that Paula Romero KF5CNS is the winner of the AARA Technician Contest. She worked really hard at achieving this goal and in the process made some interesting contacts. Paula dropped off her log on October 8, 2011 around 4:30 PM.

One of her most interesting contacts took place on EchoLink. While talking on the 146.82 repeater with KN5GRK, she asked if it was possible to talk to someone in Boulder, CO as she has a brother in that area. Bolder, CO node 4140 was brought up and a mobile station came back with the call WØSTU which happens to be Stu Turner and if you happen to have a copy of the August 2011 QST, you will see his Son on the front cover with a Scout group doing some "fox hunting", inside you will find a article about the Scouts and what they are doing.

This made a very interesting contact for Paula. So all doing this contest, keep at it!

I will present Paula a certificate of achievement plus 15 door prize tickets for the AARA Rayne Hamfest 2012 next year. **GOOD WORK PAULA!**

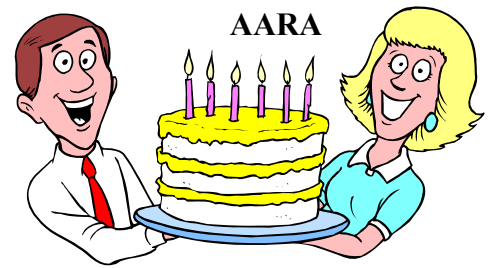
Herman Campbell KN5GRK  
AARA President



The AARA is once again going to provide communications this year for the Cajun Cup 10K Run downtown Lafayette. The race will take place on November 12.

Jess Gillion KF5LUL is the chairperson this year.

Cajun Cup 10K Run website:  
<http://www.cajuncup10k.com/home.htm>

**NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

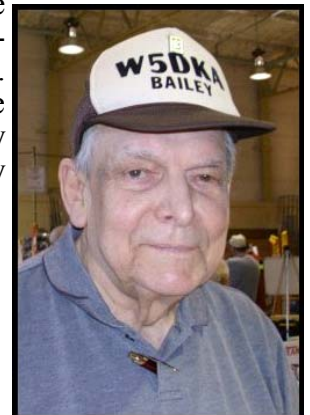
11/01 JOANN	KE5RPL
11/03 PAUL	K5VSH
11/12 AL	K5MZG
11/13 BETTY	K5BMC
11/20 STEVE	KC5YGC

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership applications, this is why some may not be on the list.

**Clovis Bailey a.k.a. "Ole Bailey" W5DKA - SK**

Clovis Bailey a.k.a. "Ole Bailey", long time amateur radio operator W5DKA became a silent key at 9:15 am Thursday October 20, 2011. Many of our fellow hams knew him if they checked in on the Gulf Coast Sideband Net and Delta Sideband Net on 75 meters where he became an icon. He usually attended the AARA Hamfest in Rayne each year. He was one of the founders and Chief Engineer of radio station KSIG in Crowley, Louisiana. His achievements in the military, electronics and other organizations would astound you.

His wit and knowledge of electronics were an inspiration to all. He will be greatly missed by all!



## Amateur Radio Special Event @ Maritime Museum San Diego

The oldest active sailing ship in the world, the Barque Star of India, using call sign NS6IO Mobile, will sail in the San Diego area to celebrate her 148th birthday on Saturday the 12th and Sunday the 13th of November. She will be accompanied by the HMS Surprise, also operating using the call sign NS6OI Mobile. HMS Surprise is a sailing replica of the 20 gun British Navy Frigate HMS Rose circa 1757.

Star of India, initially named EUTERPE, was completed in the Ramsey Shipyard, Isle of Man, in November of 1863. She sailed around the world several times carrying cargo and passengers. She was renamed Star of India in 1902 when she joined the Alaska Trading Association carrying cannery workers and cargo from Oakland, CA to canneries in the Bering Sea and returning to Oakland with canned salmon.

The Star of India was brought to San Diego in 1926, was restored over several decades and became the flagship of the Maritime Museum San Diego in early 1970s. HMS Surprise was used for filming the 2003 movie "Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World", starring Russell Crowe.

Homepage of MMSD is <http://www.sdmaritime.org/>.

Note: There will be only one operator on duty per vessel each day, so there will be no capability for simplex operations on different modes and bands. We ask for your patience because of the expected operator workload.

Propagation conditions permitting, we plan to alternate operations between 20M and 10M, and stick with whichever band is propagating the best. If the ships venture into international waters, we will append the suffix "/Maritime Mobile" to NS6OI and indicate which of the ships is transmitting.

## Paul Breaux Middle School "Fox Hunt"

On Thursday October 13th, Nick Pugh K5QXJ and Herman Campbell KN5GRK went to visit Mrs. Terry Turner's 6th Grade Class at Paul Breaux Middle School in Lafayette. They have around 13 students that have formed a radio club and are working at getting their license.

Nick has been working with Mrs. Turner and her group on several occasions. This visit was to introduce the kids to "Fox Hunting". Three "Arrow" 2 meter hand held yagi antennas along with three hand held transceivers, plus the "Fox" ( a small very low power transmitter about the size of a pack of cigarettes) were used in this event.

Nick hid the "fox" on the school campus prior of meeting the group in the classroom. After a brief discussion on how and why radio direction finding (RDF) is important in tracking and finding unknown transmitters, the group was split up into three groups, Mrs. Turner had one group, Nick had one group and Herman had one group, each group had an antenna and hand-held. The groups then proceeded to the parking lot and start looking.



My group took a beam heading from the parking lot and noted the direction, then moved to another area, took a reading and noted the direction, they then proceeded to the third location, took a reading and noted the direction. They then determined where the three readings intersected and moved to that location and there the "fox" was found. GREAT WORK! Our group finished as First Place.

Nick then hid the "fox" in two more locations on the campus and after a while they located them. I was not available to tag along with them as they moved very fast for my old body to keep up with them. We all had a lot of fun and it was great working with a great group of kids who will hopefully become great amateur radio operators.

Next meeting will be on "Message Handling and Radiograms". I would like to mention the students participating in the "Fox Hunt". They were:

Avery Grubb, Luke Landry, Sami Aissi, Alec Burdette, Kristian Journet, Taggart Fitzgerald, Hayden Coleman, Anna Espinoza, Lane Royer, Javontay Foreman, Ben Walker, Alexander Brown and Chad Fuselier.

## November 2011 Special Events & Contests

Nov 4 thru 13

**N4V** - Caper Fear Amateur Radio Association, Fayetteville, NC. Heroes Homecoming 14.260, 7.260, 7.040

Nov 6

**VA3AAR** - Almonte Amateur Radio Club, Almonte ON. Birthday of Dr. James Naismith (inventor of Basketball. 14.150, 7.250, 3.750

Nov 11

**W3UDX** - Bulter County Amateur Radio Association. Butler, PA Veterans Day Special Event 14.250, 7.200, 3.900

Nov 17

Nov 26-27

**K7NRA** - Yavapai Amateur Radio Club, Paulden, AZ. NRA 140th Birthday 21.335, 14.250, 14.050, 7.250

**K4VRC** - The Villages Amateur Radio Club. Lady Lake, FL. Radio on the Square. 14.266, 7.255, 14.066,



## OCTOBER 2011 AARA MEETING MINUTES (edited)

### MEETING:

The meeting was opened by the club President Herman KN5GRK.

The opening prayer was by the Herman KN5GRK.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

There were 22 members in attendance and 2 visitors.

Members introduced themselves and gave interesting contacts.

**Minutes:** The September Minutes were not read, due to being posted in the October LARC Newsletter. The minutes were approved as posted in the September issue of the LARC.

**Financial Report:** The financial report was read by Joy Breaux N5YCS. On motion by Nick Breaux and seconded by Phoebe, the financial report was approved as read. The financial report is private to members only. Any member needing a copy can contact Joy at: [n5ycs@w5ddl.org](mailto:n5ycs@w5ddl.org)

**Old Business:** Herman, KN5GRK, mentioned that the local Technician Contest started September 1<sup>st</sup>. You will try to contact people with the last letter of their call sign matching the letters of the alphabet. You can use 2 meters or 440 repeaters, simplex, EchoLink, etc. Herman had copies of the log at the meeting for those interested. Tickets for the Hamfest will be given as incentive along with a nice certificate.

There are several events coming up this year in which we can participate:

**Jamboree-on-the-air** on October 15 - 16.

**Cajun Cup Run** on November 12th. Jess Gillion KF5LUL is the chairman.

**Tour de Teche** on October 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>. It will be a Canoe race along the Bayou Teche. Chairmen are Nick Pugh K5QXJ, Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD, and Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF. The volunteers for the check points are: Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP, in Arnaudville; George Donaldson AK2Q, in Breaux Bridge; Archie Hill W5AG, in St. Martinville; need operator in New Iberia; Galen KF5BET and Abbi KF5BEW Wilson in Char-enton; Jess Gillion KF5LUL and his daughter in Franklin; Nick Pugh K5QJX, in Patterson; and John Cuniff W4JHC, in Berwick. The "Crawfish Hole" in Breaux Bridge will be manned by Larry LeBlanc KE5KFD; Andre LeBlanc KF5LGN, and Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF. Herman Campbell KN5GRK, will be linking the 146.820 Lafayette machine with the Franklin 147.120 via EchoLink from his home. Mike Ancona KE5COV will handle the Franklin KE5COV repeater

The event will be from Friday, October 7, 2011 to Sunday, October 9, 2011. The total route is 133 miles.

**Half Marathon Cajun Cup** will be in December. We need a chairman.

**Veterans Day at the Military Museum in Abbeville.** Nothing scheduled.

### Hamfest 2012.

Herman Campbell KN5GRK, will serve as Chairman temporarily. There are some forms that need to be filled out soon to allow us to acquire Louisiana State Convention status. Also plans to have a Special Event on Hamfest location. Year 2012 will be 200 years of Louisiana statehood and 100 years for adopting the state flag. Hopefully we can get K5LSA (Louisiana Special Anniversary).

### 147.040 Repeater Update

Club President Herman gave a update on the status of the W5EXI repeater site. Karl Fontenot KRVS Chief Engineer stated on October 5<sup>th</sup> that the old building is being demolished, the new building will be up and a cable trough, grounding system and new security fence will be completed in about four weeks. Dick Melcher WA6MDI mailed us a Andrew L45W connector worth about \$120 and all he wanted was the price of postage \$10.95 which was agreed upon by the membership. This is to splice the hard-line at the repeater site.

### New Business:

Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, James KA9DDN, and Cindy KA9PZG Douglas, Field Day 2001 friends from way up north will be in Lafayette at the Comfort Inn on Evangeline Thruway. They will be at Poche's Restaurant at 6:30 pm. Come to have some good food and good fellowship. Listen for them on the 146.820 repeater.

Mickey Cox K5MC, Delta Division Director, is up for re-election. Consider voting for Mickey.

There was some discussion about Ed Roy not getting out well at the Courthouse. Fred Marshall W5MLE, and John Cuniff W4JHC, will check it out.

At the November meeting we may/may not have a discussion on EchoLink.

Bring door prizes.

See You at The Meeting!

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandy Leblanc KE5KJF

## NEWS FROM THE “CRAWFISH HOLE”

The 2011 “Tour De Teche” canoe race started as planned on October 7th in Port Barre with 86 entries. However, our AARA support team started weeks before, spearheaded by our coordinator, Sandy LeBlanc, KE5KJF, along with the hardy volunteers, Herman Campbell KN5GRK, Larry LeBlanc KE5KJF, Glenn Thibodeaux KF5FNP, George Donaldson AK2Q, Andre LeBlanc KF5LGN, Archie Hill W5AG, Nick Pugh K5QXJ, Galen Wilson KF5BET and Abbi Wilson KF5BEW, Jess Gillion KF5LUL, John Cuniff W4JHC, and Keith Hendrick WA5ISZ who unfortunately had to work on Saturday. A big “thank you” goes to Nick, who traveled to the checkpoint and covered that station as well as his own. We operated under the general direction of the event coordinators, Ray Pellerin, and M. Nicole Patin, both of whom convey their thanks to the whole club for their participation.



Sandy KE5KJF manning the radios at the “Crawfish Hole”



Andre KF5LGN working late into the night

The race was a long grueling race for those 28 canoes that elected to race the whole length down to Berwick, Louisiana. The club's participation was to relay in the time for each canoe at each checkpoint. During the race it became apparent that the data on the canoes sent in by radio was invaluable to the smooth running of the race and determining who reached the checkpoints and who remained on the bayou, especially at night. End to end verification of all messages insured accuracy. A couple of reported entries were corrected by Archie and Galen, who were checking the sequence of arrivals and comparing with the reported results.

There was a huge variation in the times the canoes took to reach checkpoints, making the check-in a long drawn out affair. Those unfortunate hams who manned their stations into the wee hours of the night and morning found out that Louisiana mosquitoes are a force to contend with.

Our thanks goes to all the club members who helped to make the event a success. The “Crawfish Hole” was located in the visitor center, on the bayou, next to the bridge in beautiful Breau Bridge, Louisiana. It was the radio command center feeding information to the caretakers of the Tour du Teche database. Canoe timing was made available over the internet in near (5 minute) real time. The antenna for the command center was a J-pole on a PVC self-supported pole built specially for the event.

We did get a lot of help from Mike Ancona KE5COV, the caretaker of the Baldwin/Franklin repeater, and our own Herman Campbell (KN5GRK). Herman and Mike kept the repeaters up for us and gave us the opportunity to have reports all the way along the bayou from Port Barre to Berwick. Thanks Mike for staying with the repeater and keeping us company.

(more on page 6 & 7)



Larry KE5KJF setting up the “J” pole antenna at the “Crawfish Hole”





Here are a couple of pictures Jess Gillion KF5LUL took of his setup used at Check Point 9. The first boat checked in on Saturday at 5 pm and the last boat checked in Sunday 5:58 am. The station was running flawlessly the entire time. We took a total of 35 boats checking in at this check point.



## Tour de Teche 2011



Here are some pictures taken in Berwick, LA showing John Cuniff W4JHC at his station. John is standing in front of the old Berwick Lighthouse. The other shot is John's setup.

The cheap ladder line j-poles seem to work pretty well. You can Google them and find the web site with instructions on how

to build them. It takes about 30 min. to build one. I made a common mode choke by winding the coax a few times but I don't think it's really needed. Feed line is the most expensive part. I don't know how much power they can handle, but I was using only about 10 - 20 watts to make it to the KE5COV - 147.120 MHz EchoLink repeater in Franklin. Crappie poles are meant for my 10 meter Moxon that I have yet to build....They worked pretty well as a makeshift pushup pole. Wind was blowing about 15 knots, which is why they look slightly bent.



Beautiful day mostly sunny in the morning then the clouds came up and kept it cooler than forecast. Wind chill was a bonus (except for the paddlers who had to really fight the south wind coming out of the final locks into the main channel. I noticed one 5 person canoe crossing the finish line with four paddling and one bailing water!

The picture of the finish line shows Nicole Patin standing on the dock in front of the timing clock. There is a small camera to the left that took pictures in case of a photo finish.

Those paddlers were really tired at the end. After crossing the finish line, they had to paddle another 100 yds. or so to the take-out point. I figured out that the place chosen for the finish line was the only shady place in the afternoon sun. It's also right next to the Red Lighthouse which makes for good pictures!

Lighthouse has no access and is locked up. Might have to twist some arms if it's ever activated and you want to transmit from within the actual lighthouse. Don't know the rules there but it's a really unique and seemingly well preserved lighthouse. Might be something to keep in mind for a future club project.

Great time, and thanks again. You and Larry are wonderful.

-73

-John

## OCTOBER 2011 ACADIANA AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECKINS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
OAARC Net - Opelousas Area Amateur Radio Club	5	37	2	75	N5LRZ Ray
AARA Monday Night Net	5	58	1	129	KF5ENE Mark
Acadiana ARES Net	4	15	Ø	42	N5LRZ Ray
HEAL Net * (M=Medical G=Guest)	2	* M 6 / G 7	Ø	11	KE5JKD Larry

Thanksgiving Day is a jewel, to set in the hearts of honest men; but be careful that you do not take the day, and leave out the gratitude.

~E.P. Powell



## October VE Test Session Results

The September 2011 VE Test results are as follows:

Rick Fruge KF5MHJ of Jennings, LA upgraded to General.

VE's were:

Danny Griffith K5ARH

Rick Breau N5RLM

Greg Dolan K5LFT

John Cuniff W4JHC

Archie Hill W5AG

VE testing takes place at 6:00 PM prior to the AARA General Meeting which takes place at 7:00 PM on the first Thursday of each month.



## Tour de Teche from Charenton, LA

By Galen Wilson - KF5BET

Our Day with the Chitimachas started around 10:45 am when we arrived to set up. We raised the copper J-pole on a homemade stand made from the base of an old floor lamp with a PVC pipe bracket to hold the antenna

(notice the hi-tech toolbox weight).

The first boat arrived at 2:02 pm. As the boats came into view, the local school children would whoop and holler—welcoming the boaters to the check point. The local tribe members offered food drinks and restroom facilities for each participant. The launch was lined with carpet which protected the bottom of the boats, also giving the participants' feet great comfort as they disembarked their crafts to stretch their legs.

As the day progressed, we learned several words in Chitimachan such as "Xahnite" *welcome* and "Nito" *good-bye*. We also heard the national anthem both in English and native tongue—very interesting.

We used two Yaesu handheld 2 meter rigs, alternating them as needed to charge the batteries from the truck. We connected to the Franklin repeater, KE5COV, which was linked back to the W5DDL repeater using 5 watts (thanks Mike, we really appreciate your help in keeping the link up!)

The last boat to check in rounded the bend and came into view at 10:54 pm. We had a great day. Thanks to Sandy, Larry and Andre for working tirelessly at the "Crawfish Hole" throughout the race.

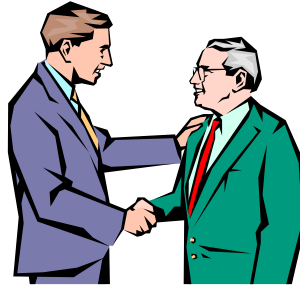
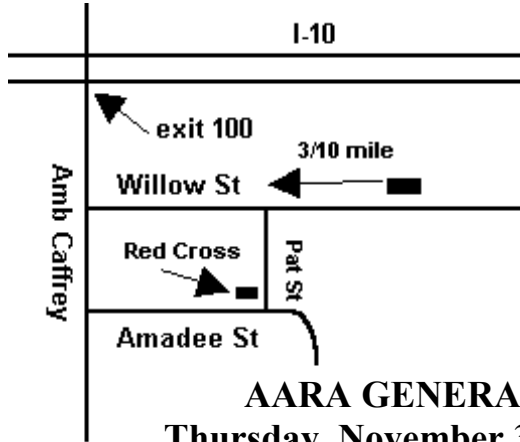


**AARA November General Meeting - November 3, 2011 @ 7:00 PM**  
Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat Street, Scott, LA. VE Testing will be at 6:00 PM.



**Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc.,  
Inc.  
P. O. Box 51174  
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174**

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



Share the Fun - Bring a  
Friend to be a HAM !

**AARA GENERAL MEETING**  
**Thursday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 - 7:00 PM**  
**VE Testing @ 6:00 PM**  
**Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA**  
**Lunch Bunch**  
Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery - Lafayette, LA  
Check 146.820 - repeater for info.



## Creamy Cranberry Salad

3 cups Cranberries chopped  
1 can 20oz crushed pineapple drained  
1 Medium apple chopped  
2 cups Mini marshmallows  
2/3 cup sugar  
1/8 tsp salt

1/4 cup Walnuts chopped  
2 cups Whipped cream

Combine cranberries, pineapple, marshmallows, sugar, salt and walnuts.

Cover and refrigerate overnight.

Fold in whipped cream just  
before serving.

Eat and enjoy!

Send your favorite recipes to:  
Galen KF5BET  
[galenw@cox.net](mailto:galenw@cox.net)



## FCC Information Service

Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur Radio license inquiries about new/vanity call signs: 888-225-5322. This will connect you to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at: 202-414-1250 or:  
[ulscomm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscomm@fcc.gov).

FCC Website:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New call sign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is:

Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245